

July 3 / Administration of George W. Bush, 2001

\$92.5 million in surplus local revenues to address FY 2001 budget pressures, and approval for the Water and Sewer Authority (an enterprise fund) to spend \$2.2 million of its own revenue.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 3.

Remarks During a Visit to a White House Staff Member at Inova Fairfax Hospital and an Exchange With Reporters in Fairfax, Virginia

July 3, 2001

The President. You know, when you come, it reminds us of the responsibilities that we have in life. And Vivienne is lucky to have a mother and dad who will love her all the time. And she doesn't know it, yet, but she's learning pretty quickly. She's less than 24 hours old.

We also have a responsibility to make sure our education systems provide excellence for every child.

We have a responsibility—and Congress needs to bring me a bill that will help the patients who come to these hospitals maintain reasonable insurance, and a bill that doesn't help lawyers.

We have a responsibility to encourage love all throughout our communities. That's why the Faith-Based Initiative is so important. A lot of babies are born sometimes where the—some babies are born where people just don't love them like they should. And as a society, we've got to make

up for that love. Yesterday I had the opportunity to meet with service organizations all across—representing people from all across the country, committed to finding a million mentors to love children.

The good news for this little baby is, she's got a mom and dad who know their responsibilities. It's a great Fourth of July gift. Congratulations.

Okay.

Stem Cell Research

Q. Mr. President, do you know when you'll actually make a decision on stem cell research funding?

The President. In a while.

NOTE: The President spoke at approximately 9:30 a.m. In his remarks, he referred to Vivienne Anna Sayle, daughter of Desiree Sayle, Director of Correspondence for the First Lady, and attorney Stephen Sayle.

Message on the Observance of Independence Day, 2001

July 3, 2001

Two hundred and twenty-five years ago, the signers of the Declaration of Independence boldly asserted that all are "created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that

among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness." With these words, the Signers announced the birth of a new Nation and put forth a vision of liberty and democracy that would forever alter history.

Every Fourth of July, Americans celebrate this pivotal moment in our national story, which set into motion the development of a land of freedom and opportunity unequalled in the world. The Declaration brought forth a new style of government, where democratic institutions gained their power from the consent of the governed. Today, we recognize that people around the globe have also drawn inspiration from the Declaration of Independence. Our prosperity and strength stand as a testament to the ideals it embodies.

Independence Day serves as a special time to remember the achievements of our great statesmen, social reformers, inventors,

and artists. We pause to give thanks for the many men and women who gave their lives to defend our freedom. At the same time, the Fourth of July provides a unique occasion to reflect on the challenges ahead. By building on the efforts of previous generations and pursuing opportunity and justice for all our citizens, we will continue our Nation's development and help ensure a brighter future for all Americans.

On this great day, I extend my best wishes to all Americans for a safe and memorable Independence Day. God bless you, and God bless America.

GEORGE W. BUSH

Remarks at an Independence Day Celebration in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania *July 4, 2001*

Mr. Mayor, thank you very much. I appreciate so much your hospitality. Laura and I are honored to be here in Philadelphia. It's the perfect place to celebrate our Nation's birthday.

I told the mayor in front of the country, when I addressed the Congress, that I was coming to Philadelphia to celebrate the wonderful missions that take place in this grand city. Mr. Mayor, thank you for allowing me to come, and thank you for your gracious hospitality. Same to the Governor of this great State, our close friend Tom Ridge and his wife, Michele. Thank you all very much for your hospitality.

It's an honor to be on the stage with the senior Senator, who married quite well himself. *[Laughter]* I appreciate you being here, Senator, and the honorable—it's an honor to be on the stage with leaders of the faith community in Philadelphia. Distinguished guests, my fellow citizens, thank you for your warm welcome.

And thank you, Mr. Mayor, for your lovely gift. Laura and I will make a special place for it at the White House.

Today we celebrate American independence in the place of America's birth, close to a symbol of American liberty. As millions know, to see the Liberty Bell is a moving experience. In America, we set aside certain places and treasures like this to protect them from the passing of the years. We grant them special care to mark a moment in time. Here in Philadelphia, these markers are all around us, reminders of our history.

This is a dynamic and modern city. Yet if the Founders themselves were here, they would know the place. Benjamin Franklin and his wife could still find their way from here to the corner where they first saw each other, at Market and 4th. John Adams could make his way to City Tavern and show us the spot where he first shook the hand of George Washington. Thomas Jefferson would still find waiting for him the room where he drafted the Declaration of